

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5        1. A method for architectural space programming for a facility, wherein the facility includes a plurality of departments, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) entering project data, wherein the project data relates to the facility and the plurality of departments; and
- b) calculating an architectural space program plan based on the project data.

10        2. The method of claim 1, wherein the project data includes information related to a cost per unit of space, and the method further comprising the step of:

- c) calculating a total construction cost based on the cost per unit of space area.

15        3. The method of claim 1, wherein the data entering step (a) comprises the step of:

      a1) entering facility data, wherein facility data relates to total occupancy and capacity for the facility.

20        4. The method of claim 3, wherein the calculating step (b) comprises the step of:

      b1) calculating a gross area available for use based on the facility data.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the data entering step (a) further comprises the steps of:

      a2) selecting a department in the facility; and

5 a3) entering department data, wherein department data relates to requirements for the department.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the calculating step (b) further comprises the step of:

10 b2) calculating a space plan for the department based on the department data and industry building standards, norms and codes, wherein the space plan for the department includes a number of rooms and a size associated with each room.

15 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the data entering step (a) further comprises the step of:

20 a4) repeating steps (a2) and (a3) for each department in the plurality of departments in the facility.

25 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the calculating step (b) further comprises the step of:

30 b3) updating the architectural space program plan after a user enters new department data, including modifications to existing department data.

35 9. The method of claim 5, wherein the department data includes current workload

40 information, utilization information, and projected growth information.

45 10. The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of:

50 d) displaying the architectural space program plan and total construction cost to the user.

55 11. A computer readable medium containing program instructions for architectural space

allocation planning for a facility, wherein the facility includes a plurality of departments, the program instructions for:

5           a)     entering project data, wherein the project data relates to the facility and the plurality of departments; and

              b)     calculating an architectural space program plan based on the project data.

12.    The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the project data includes information related to a cost per unit of space, and the computer readable medium further comprising the instruction for:

10           c)     calculating a total construction cost based on the cost per unit of space.

13.    The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the data entering instruction (a) comprises the instruction for:

15           a1)    entering facility data, wherein facility data relates to total occupancy and capacity for the facility.

14.    The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the calculating instruction (b) comprises the instruction for:

20           b1)    calculating a gross area available for use based on the facility data.

15.    The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein the data entering instruction (a) further comprises the instructions for:

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a2)    selecting a department in the facility; and

5 a3) entering department data, wherein department data relates to requirements for the department.

10 16. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the calculating instruction (b) further  
5 comprises the instruction for:

15 b2) calculating a space plan for the department based on the department data and industry  
building standards, norms and codes, wherein the space plan for the department includes a number of  
rooms and a size associated with each room.

20 17. The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the data entering instruction (a)  
further comprises the instruction for:

10 a4) repeating instructions (a2) and (a3) for each department in the plurality of departments in  
the facility.

15 18. The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the calculating instruction (b) further  
comprises the instruction for:

20 b3) updating the architectural space program plan after a user enters new department data,  
including modification to existing department data.

19. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the requirements for the department  
include current workload information, utilization information, and projected growth information.

20. The computer readable medium of claim 18 further comprising the instruction for:

d) displaying the architectural space program plan and total construction cost to the designer.

5 21. A system for online architectural space programming for a facility, wherein the facility includes a plurality of departments comprising:

a client computer system for allowing a user to enter project data, wherein the project data relates to the facility and the plurality of departments; and

a server coupled to the client computer system, the server comprising a processing system for calculating an architectural space program plan based on the project data.

10 22. The system of claim 21, wherein the project data includes information related to a cost per unit of space, and wherein the processor system further for calculating a total construction cost based on the cost per unit of space.

15 23. The system of claim 21, wherein the client computer system further comprises:

means for entering facility data, wherein facility data relates to total occupancy and capacity for the facility;

20 means for selecting a department in the facility; and

means for entering department data for the selected department, wherein department data relates to requirements for the selected department.

24. The system of claim 23, wherein the processor system further for:

calculating a gross area available for use based on the facility data; and  
calculating a space plan for the selected department based on the department data and industry  
building standards, norms and codes, wherein the space plan for the selected department includes a number  
of rooms and a size associated with each room.

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25. The system of claim 24, wherein the client computer system further includes means for  
entering department data for each department of the plurality of departments in the facility.
26. The system of claim 25, wherein the processing system further for updating the  
architectural space program plan after the entry of department data for a new department.
27. The system of claim 23, wherein department data includes current workload information,  
utilization information, and projected growth information.
28. The system of claim 26, wherein the client computer system further comprises a display  
device, and wherein the architectural space program plan is displayed to the user via the  
display device.
29. A computer system, comprising:  
a processing system; and  
an application program being executed by the processing system, the application program for  
receiving project data, wherein the project data relates to a facility and a plurality of departments in the

facility, and for calculating an architectural space program plan based on the project data.

5       30. The computer system of claim 29, wherein the project data includes information related to a cost per unit of space, and wherein the application program further for calculating a total construction cost based on the cost per unit of space.

10      31. The computer system of claim 29, wherein the project data includes facility data, the facility data relating to total occupancy and capacity for the facility, and department data, the department data relating to requirements for a corresponding department in the plurality of departments.

15      32. The computer system of claim 31, wherein the application program further for calculating a gross area available for use based on the facility data; and calculating a space plan for each department based on the corresponding department data and industry building standards, norms and codes.

20      33. The computer system of claim 31, wherein the department data includes current workload information, utilization information, and projected growth information.

25      34. The computer system of claim 29 further comprising a display device, wherein the architectural space program plan is displayed to a user via the display device.